September 1987

Evaluating Rules For Clean Water

Trade Shows: Do They Help?

HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR OPERATIONS

Mayors' Urban Investment Policy

Managing Park Maintenance

Assessing Your Transit Needs

States Assist With Streets

The Best Pipe For Your Water

Special Show Product Review

American City & County

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September 1987 Vol. 102, No. 9

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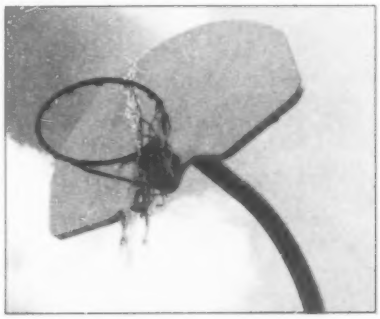

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MUNICIPAL COST INDEXES

All four indexes rose 0.4 percent over last month's figures, with the **Municipal Cost Index** continuing its rise to 348.9. This marks the 11th consecutive month the index has risen. The **Construction Cost Index** rose to 348.4, while the **Consumer Price Index** read 340.1. The Consumer Price Index also increased the most from last year, up 3.7 percent. The **Producer Price Index** also registered a high increase over last year at 308.5, compared with a September 1986 figure of 298.9.

Air conditioners dropped only 0.1 percent from last month's 149.8; passenger cars declined 0.1 percent from 239.9 to this month's 239.7. Trucks saw an increase of 0.3 percent, to 345.4, compared with August's 344.4.

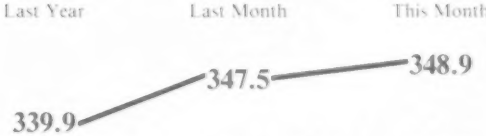
— Compiled by Tim Darnell

THIS MONTH'S MARKETBASKET

	Current Index	Percent Change From: Last Month	Last Year
Air Conditioners	149.7	−0.1	0.3
Apparel	187.5	0.6	1.4
Asphalt Roofing	363.3	−0.2	−6.2
Chemicals, Industrial	344.1	2.7	8.7
Coal	519.0	−0.2	−3.7
Concrete Products	325.6	0.1	0
Construction Machinery	375.6	−0.1	2.4
Diesel Fuel	437.1	3.3	25.5
Electric Components	358.9	0	1.6
Electric Lamps	347.5	0.1	0.1
Electric Power	454.2	3.5	−2.0
Engines, I.C.	358.9	0	1.6
Fans, Blowers	370.0	−0.2	1.2
Fertilizers, Mixed	254.0	0.3	−0.5
Floor Coverings	197.2	−1.0	0.3
Flow Instruments	239.7	−0.4	1.9
Footwear	263.4	−1.2	1.0
Foundry Products	363.8	−0.1	−0.1
Fuel Oil No. 2	462.4	3.3	21.9
Furniture	326.8	0.1	2.9
Gasoline	404.4	3.1	3.0
Generator Sets	355.5	0.1	1.9
Glass	237.1	0.7	3.2
Glass Containers	400.8	0.9	0.1
Gypsum Products	328.3	−1.8	−7.3
Hardware	307.6	0.2	0.4
Heating Equipment	273.7	−0.4	2.1
HVAC Controls	131.4	−0.2	3.6
LP Gas	354.6	−3.1	−3.6
Lubricants	345.1	−1.0	−7.6
Lumber	332.4	0.4	7.3
Metal Fabrications	317.7	−0.1	0.7
Millwork	329.7	0.5	3.2
Motor Vehicle Parts	368.0	0	2.7
Mowers	266.1	0.2	0.8
Natural Gas	1102.6	−1.8	−11.1
Office Machines	158.8	0.1	2.8
Paint	332.5	2.3	5.6
Paper	314.2	−0.1	3.0
Passenger Cars	239.7	−0.1	3.2
Plumbing Fixtures	333.4	0.4	2.9
Plywood	229.2	−0.6	−2.7
Portland Cement	345.5	−0.9	−2.2
Residual Fuel	650.8	1.7	43.7
Sand, Gravel	330.2	0.2	3.9
Sanitary Papers	382.5	0	−0.2
Soaps, Detergents	277.0	0	1.0
Sporting Goods	208.6	0.1	1.0
Steel Mill Products	354.0	0.1	1.5
Struc. Clay Products	318.0	0.4	3.0
Switchgear	292.5	0.5	2.7
Tires, Tubes	231.0	0	−1.6
Transformers	234.1	−1.2	0.5
Trucks	345.4	0.3	−0.3
Valves	107.3	−1.1	0.5
Wire, Cable	207.2	0.4	0.4
Wiring Devices	380.7	−0.2	1.5

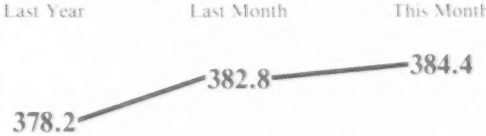
At-A-Glance Changes

MUNICIPAL COST INDEX



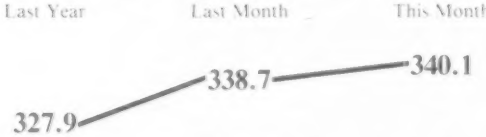
Percent Change From Last: Month 0.4 Year 2.6

CONSTRUCTION COST INDEX



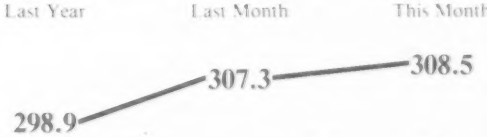
Percent Change From Last: Month 0.4 Year 1.6

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (BLS)



Percent Change From Last: Month 0.4 Year 3.7

PRODUCER PRICE INDEX (BLS)



Percent Change From Last: Month 0.4 Year 3.2

These figures are calculated on a base year of 1967.

QUARTERLY MUNICIPAL TRENDS

	Current Level	Percent Change From: Last Qtr.	Last Year
Receipts	634.8B	.9	7.8
Federal Grants	104.1B	6.6	−10.9
Durable Purchases	23.6B	3.1	9.8
Consumables	37.6B	2.7	−6.0
Services	387.4B	2.3	8.0
Structures	64.6B	−2.7	16.2
Salaries, Wages	309.8B	2.3	6.0
Surplus	59.4B	−7.7	1.0
Employment	13.999M	−.4	2.7